

The Cheerful Letter

EVERY PLACE A CHURCH; EVERY DAY THE LORD'S DAY; ALL EVENTS BLESSINGS; ALL JOY
THANKSGIVING; AND ALL NATURE AND LIFE FULL OF GOD.—*James Freeman Clarke.*

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"IN MY FATHER'S HOUSE ARE MANY MANSIONS."

Do saints keep holy-day in heavenly places?
Does the old joy shine new in angel faces?
Are hymns still sung the night when Christ was
born,

And anthems on the resurrection morn?

Because our little year of earth is run,
Do they make record there beyond the sun?
And, in their homes of light so far away,
Mark with us the sweet coming of this day?

What is their Easter? For they have no
graves;

No shadow there the holy sunrise craves,
Deep in the heart of noontide marvellous,
Whose breaking glory reaches down to us.

How did the Lord keep Easter? With his
own!

Back to meet Mary where she grieved alone:
With face and mien all tenderly the same,
Unto the very sepulchre he came.

Ah! the dear message that he gave her then,
Said for the sake of all bruised hearts of men—
"Go tell those friends who have believed on me
I go before them into Galilee.

"Into the life so poor and hard and plain,
That for a while they must take up again,
My presence passes. Where their feet toil
slow,
Mine, shining swift with love, still foremost go.

"Say, Mary, I will meet them: by the way
To walk a little with them; where they stay
To bring my peace. Watch! for ye do not
know

The day, the hour, when I may find you so."

And I do think, as he came back to her,
The many mansions may be all astir
With tender steps that hasten in the way,
Seeking their own upon this Easter Day.

Parting the veil that hideth them about,
I think they do come, softly wistful, out
From homes of heaven that only *seem* so far,
And walk in gardens where the new tombs are.

—A. D. T. Whitney.

CONCERNING DEATH.

AMOS v. 8.—"Seek him who turneth the shadow of
death into the morning."

Death is waking up out of sleep. During
the night your senses are locked fast in
sleep. But there is another world all around
you, which for the time you do not see.
Perhaps the morning sun rises and shines
through the windows, and finds you sleeping
still, living in that world of dreams and
shadows. There is a bright sky over you,
and the morning air is broken into whirls
and eddies of song from a thousand birds;
but you see and hear nothing of all this,
for sleep has locked you fast in that land
of dreams. But by and by your senses
unclose, the dream-world all vanishes, and,
lo! this other world of sky and earth and
woods and waters is all given to your sight.
How have you passed from that world of
shadows into this real world of beauty and
song? By going away? No; but by wak-
ing up. You open your eyes, and pass from
one world to another, not by travelling, but
simply by the exercise of another set of
faculties which have waked into conscious-
ness. But you have not yet waked into the
highest world. There is a brighter one yet,
compared with which all this outward scene

is a land of dreams and shadows. What you saw in your sleep compared with what you saw when you awoke is as this world we now look upon compared with the one we shall see when death wakes us to a sight of its realities.

So friends, when they die, do not travel off into space to find the spiritual world. They have a sense within which simply wakes up to what before was all around and within them, though invisible. You have souls within you. These souls are the immortal and substantial part of you, though, alas! they are now comparatively asleep, and at best only dream and imagine what shall be hereafter. The soul is the real man, having its own class of faculties, though closed and locked in a mortal body. Death is simply the waking up of those faculties to the bright and embracing world of immortality.

And I do not know that death will be our last waking. I do not know but we may have deeper senses yet, which death now may not touch and open. Perhaps we have ranges of faculties, one within another, each with its own world and modes of being, so that we may keep waking up, stage after stage, to brighter realms, for ever and ever away toward God, the central life and glory of all.

In all that I have now said I have considered myself as describing death as it is to good men and innocent children. I do not mean to say that it will wake every one immediately into a higher and brighter scene. But it will wake each one to see just the world he is already in and belongs to. It is a great mistake to think that God will raise men to heaven or send them to dismal abodes, merely because they die. Can we not grasp this great truth,—that men go to a good world or a bad one before they die, and that death only touches them to wake them up, and show them where they are?

Here is a man who is sleeping in a pleasant garden, embowered in fragrant shades and blooming roses. Friends may be walking all around him, and watching his slumber, and birds of paradise may fling golden shadows over him from their wings. But he does not see all this. He is locked in his own world, and only dreaming of it. He is asleep. By and by some friend comes

and touches him, and says: "Sleep no longer! Wake to what is about you!" He does wake, and by the very act of waking becomes cognizant of all those pleasant things. He has not gone away somewhere to find them. He was among them before, and only waked up to see them. So it is with good men and good children. They are in heaven before they die in heart and spirit; with God and his Christ and his angels, for these draw around the good man,—encamp round about him, as the Psalmist says, and death only wakes him, that he may find himself among the sweet societies. Death comes to such as an angel friend,—as if he would say as he touches them: "Sleep no more! Wake up from those earth dreams to these blessed realities!"

Even so let us remember that bad men, before they die, have withdrawn from the communion of God and heaven and angels. They have travelled away from these already, and death only wakes them up to where they are,—the evil companionship which they love, and the dismal surroundings which it creates.

Our spiritual travelling is done before death. It is change of state, not change of place. What a blessed thought!—that we are not to cross streams and dark valleys to find the happy abodes and peaceful homes, but that we may wake to higher life and find ourselves among the shining ones, just as we wake out of a dream in the morning, and find ourselves in our homes and families. But, in order to do this, we must be of the same temper, spirit, and purpose. There is no such thing as *going* to heaven; but you may become heavenly-minded, and then death will wake you out of the more sluggish existence of earth, to the more visible realities of a heavenly world.

And how, you will ask, are we to become heavenly-minded? I have already implied how this may be. But, to make it very plain, I present it in two points which you can remember and carry away.

First, we become heavenly-minded by living to make others happy. That includes almost the whole. The employments of heaven, as we read, consist in making others happy. That is what is meant by the word "angel." It is a messenger, and a messenger of good, sent to bestow blessings. When we live to bless others, we become, like them,

messengers of good. If the employments of earth only had this end in view, heaven would be brought down into all its affairs. If it is the aim and work of your life to be a blessing to others, you are living already the heavenly life, and you will be only more openly and visibly in heaven when death wakes you to its scenery and surroundings.

But we cannot make others happy except we are good ourselves, except as God makes us so by our communings with him, as he is revealed in his Christ, and thence seeks to form his own image both in men and in little children. I present in these two points the pith and essence of a great many sermons and even libraries. Live to make others happy, and heaven is already entered; and, in order to this, "Seek Him who turneth the shadow of death into the morning." *E. H. Sears, "A Sermon for Children."*

THE STILL HOUR.

"Thine eyes shall see the King." Soon, soon,
the veil

That hides the glorious throne shall be with-
drawn.

No cloud shall hang athwart the radiant dawn
Of heaven's glad morning. Yet no eye shall
fail

For all the brightness. Perfect light will bring
A perfect vision, heavenly rapture fall
On hearts attuned to comprehend it all.

The songs will not seem strange that angels
sing,—

New, but not strange. The joy will be most
sweet,

Because most natural. To see Him there,

To know and love him and his image bear,
Will make it homelike. Though the golden
street

Were more than golden, yet it still would be
The "Father's House," and nothing else to thee.

—*Lucy A. Bennett.*

Man finds his true repose in a life that takes hold of the Eternal. Much as we need Christian work, there is need of something more,—rest, rest in God, rest in the bosom of his everlasting love. "Come ye yourselves and rest awhile" at the Master's feet.

"Come unto me, and I will give you rest." Come, and let our hearts be sunned and warmed in the light of this infinite peace.

What sweet rest comes to the soul at night, when all day long the voice has been kind, and the deed good, the thought pure, hour by hour! Such days have glorious sunsets: the beauty of God is in the clouds. Lifting others' burdens not only lightens our own, but brings a peace deeper than joy over us, like the light of day as it slowly flushes the east to herald the sunrise. So our mornings and our evenings are full of peace. Let us put on the yoke of love and obedience, which fits the soul so perfectly that it makes every duty easy and every burden light.

To the lowly is given the promise.

Jesus knew his work on earth was short. This "little while" troubled his disciples. It was himself, as well as his teaching, that won their hearts. He made their yoke easy and their burden light. His going away would break the spell of his personal presence, even though it brought the Comforter. How does Christ come? He is coming again and yet again, always coming, as Son of God and Saviour from selfishness and sin, stimulating us to live as heirs with him of the Life Eternal. This world is fairer, life richer, human loves deeper, hope brighter, God nearer, and heaven dearer for the coming of his spirit in our midst. Let us feel the beating of his great heart of love. Lowly hearts cannot let him go; heroic hearts cling to him; philanthropic hearts receive a new baptism of his spirit. Whose heart does not say, All hail! to such a coming, not in the clouds of heaven, but in the souls of men?

"I will come to you."

—*Leaflets for Lent, W. P. Tilden.*

THE BIBLE CLASS.

[Want of space obliged us to omit a part of this article last month. Dr. Hale is now speaking of the narrative at the beginning of the Gospel of Matthew, following chronologically the first nine chapters of John.]

From this moment the whole spirit of his action changes; and this is no small part of the difference between the Fourth Gospel and the First. It is the change, to be found in lesser instances in lesser history, where appeal to rulers fails, and the appeal is

changed and made to those they rule,—where the leader turns from the city to the country, from the learned to the unlearned, from the critics to the uncriticising, from the gentry to the commons, from the clergy to the congregation, from the first and second estate to the third estate. Jesus turns from the anointed to the unanointed. And his mode of address changes in the instant. He speaks as a peasant to peasants, as a mountaineer to mountaineers, as a Galilean to Galileans. We lose the Scriptural allusion, the frequent reference to Moses, the sustained argument, and the regular discourse. We launch upon epigram, proverb, country illustrations, open-air life, and parable. His mode of action changes in like wise. He attaches disciples to his person now, and on the instant sends them out announcing the presence of the kingdom, whose power they felt, though they could hardly understand it or explain it. After one utter failure—as his neighbors thought it—at Nazareth, his native city, he establishes his headquarters at Capernaum, and then in three distinct expeditions, by different routes, apparently north-east, south-west, and north-west, rouses the whole country to excitement.

The popular notion of this ministry is that for the period of some three years he was quietly living in Capernaum, every now and then taking a walk into the country or to Jerusalem, producing some new miracle, when wonder had cooled a little, or uttering some new discourse. A more accurate study of it shows that in five or six weeks Jesus had made these different, distinct expeditions, had seen, face to face, thousands on thousands of an excited peasantry, had wrought most of the miracles described in the course of his career, and, in a word, had set all Galilee in a blaze. Each hour was filled full, and every feature of his power exhibited. He has the most majestic aim in sight every moment. And he is not making preparation for some distant accomplishment of that aim. He speaks of the present to the present. "Here is God—now!" So he calls for present allegiance. "Who hath ears to hear let him hear—now!" To bring this people at once to this immediate sense of God's love and power, he goes out doing good among them, without stay or hindrance. There is, in-

deed, nothing human with which such an enterprise is to be likened. But a faint analogy to it appears in the enterprise of a national leader, who, with some Marseilles hymn, goes out from town to town to startle every man of an oppressed nation by calling, "To arms!" Just the faintest analogy to it is in one of those real religious revivals, in which, with something of Christ's spirit, some Whitefield or Wesley goes forth to call a sleeping world to wake and deaf ears to listen. That preaching, indeed, demands little more than the words, "Now!" not to-morrow, "Here!" not in heaven. Now and here! God at hand! These are the very words which waked the men of Galilee to feel that the New Life had come, that the world and its history and its religion were all made new.

The tone of such a crisis runs through all the narrative of this enterprise,—completely different, if we dare see the distinction, from talk with Nicodemus or at the well-side, and yet again from the philippics at Jerusalem, as the end of the whole comes on. With any adequate sense of what the enterprise itself is, we are somewhat prepared to understand the duty given to the twelve. We see why they were not called before, why this is the time when they were needed. It is not Galilee alone that is to hear these words,—*"At hand!" "Here!" "Now!"* God is everywhere, as well as in Galilee, and all the world is to be made to listen to his Present Voice. Jesus, indeed, is ready to do the whole. But all those who listen are children of God; and it is the new law of life that they must give while they take. And thus, to carry on as promptly as may be possible the infinite duty, Jesus, as he passes from village to village, sees that it is time for him to send out rays of light in a circle all around him. While he goes south, others must go east and north and west. And this also must be at once,—must be here and now. Here and now must he send forth others with this infinite truth, "God is here! God is now!" and so begin that sending forth of ministering servants which must go on through time, till every heart through the world feels always that God is in all its beatings, that God guides, guards, counsels, and defends us, here and now. *E. E. Hale, from "Logical Sequence of the Gospels,"*

THE MOTHERS' COUNCIL.

WHAT SHALL WE PLAY TO-DAY?

Eighth Paper.

Let us take a four-inch square of paper, and see if we cannot amuse ourselves with it. We will fold it, and then cut it according to the rules for Froebel's "thirteenth gift"; and, if we find we have anything pretty, we will paste it on a card or in a scrap-book, thus making for ourselves the occupation which the pupils of a certain lovely kindergarten call "pasting."

The best material is what is known as glazed paper. The dark shades, "black, bronze, plum," etc., are the most desirable. We must have blunt-pointed scissors for the little folk, and fresh flour paste, thin, and with a lump of alum in it, and we are ready. Now to fold the paper. Lay the square on the table with a point toward you. Place this point on its opposite, upper point, folding carefully. Fold the glazed side in, always, for this work. The paper is now in the form of a triangle. Turn it so that the apex is to the left. There are again two points perpendicularly before you. Lay them on each other, folding, and you have a smaller triangle. Some kindergarten paper has this triangle marked with lines, according to which cuttings may be made; but any paper can be folded to show such lines. As a description of the process must needs be elaborate, taking more space and time than can be conveniently given, the author will send a sample to any mother sufficiently interested to ask for it.

Having the triangle with its net of lines, the law of opposites is observed in cutting. I will try to give a simple formula that will yield quite a pretty cutting. The network of lines shows us twelve squares and eight triangles (or half-squares) on the paper. Lay it before you with base toward you, and look at it. A perpendicular line ascends to the apex, and horizontal lines cross it. (In counting, we consider a triangle as a square.) Two squares, therefore, from the top draw, with a lead-pencil, a horizontal line through one space to the left, and one space to the right of the perpendicular line. This gives a horizontal line two spaces in length. One space below

draw a similar line. From the upper one draw from each end a perpendicular to the sides of the triangle: from the lower one draw from each end a perpendicular to the base of the triangle. Mark on each side the third triangle from the top. Then, without unfolding the triangle, cut out the portions marked, cutting nowhere else. Unfold what is left of the triangle, unfold what is cut, and see what you have. Paste the main figure, and use the clippings to ornament it symmetrically, the rule being that all must be utilized. It is most satisfactory to draw the figure intended to be cut, and very elaborate ones can be made. Experience and a little study of the lines will enable any one to obtain most interesting results.

ANNIE SWAYZE BRECK.

Where highest need is, there is God's command to help.—*Selected.*

THE BOOK AND MAGAZINE CLUB.

[Send all matter for this department to Mrs. Henry R. Hallett, 310 Harvard Street, Brookline, Mass.]

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR GIVERS AND RECEIVERS.

1. If you see a book offered in the Book Club which you desire to read, write directly to the address of the person who offers it. If she receives more than one request, the addresses of those to whom she cannot respond may be sent to the Book Club, and the request printed there.

2. If you have a book or paper to give or lend, write directly to the Book Club as above, and offer it with your address.

3. In sending a book, enclose, when possible, a P.O. card for response, already addressed.

4. In thanking the person who has sent you a book, always mention the name of the book. Say, "I have received 'Black Beauty,'" or whatever the book may be; not, "I have received *that book*." This saves a busy person a good deal of time. Otherwise, she must consult her list constantly to find out what book has been received safely.

N.B.—Do not send books to the Book Club. Send only the *offer* to the club. To send the *book* involves packing it *twice* and paying postage *twice*, where once would suffice.

Those who offer books frequently receive notes, saying, "Shall I return you this book, or keep it, or pass it on?" *Unless otherwise stated, all books offered in this department are given, and the postage paid.*

Please remember, when you see a request for a book in the Book Club, to write a card to Mrs. Hal-

lett, asking, "*Shall I send such a book to such a person?*" before sending it: else the person who requests it may receive several copies. When any one writes directly to you, asking for a book offered by you, send a card to Mrs. Hallett, saying that you *have* sent it. When you receive more requests than you can meet, send these to the Book Club to be printed there.

Please write only on one side of the paper in sending lists or letters to the secretary.

A four-pound package is the most that can be sent by *mail*. The postage on four pounds of *magazines* is 16 cts., on four pounds of *books* 32 cts.

OFFERS.

Will any mother who would like to have "Gentle Measures in Training the Young," by Jacob Abbott, or any one who would like "Black Beauty," address Miss Langmaid, 2 Gordon Terrace, Brookline, Mass.?

Mrs. Henry C. Weston, 177 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass., will give and send the following books: "The Russians at the Gates of Herat," Marvin; "Egypt under its Khedives," De Leon; "Russia under the Tsars," Stepniak; "The Making of England," Green; "The Marriages of the Bonapartes," Bingham; "Short History of Ireland," Walpole; "Life of Murillo"; Cowper's Poems; "Poems," Emily Dickinson; "Light of Asia," Arnold; "One Thousand and One Gems of Prose"; "Horses, their Feed and their Feet," Dr. Page; and the following novels: "All Sorts and Conditions of Men," "By Celia's Arbor," "St. Katharine's by the Tower," "'Twas in Trafalgar," Besant; "Altiora Peto," Oliphant; "Emma," "Mansfield Park," Jane Austen; "Mary Barton," Mrs. Gaskell; "Anne," Miss Woolson; "The Story of a Flower," Miss Porter; "The Senior Partner," Mrs. Riddell; "Godfrey Helstone," Craik; "Under the Red Flag," "Phantom Fortune," "Flower and Weed," Braddon; "Quits at Last," "A Real Queen," Francillon; "Val Strange," "By the Gate of the Sea," Murray; "Plain Tales," "The Light that failed," Kipling.

The following books are offered by the Cambridge Branch of the Cheerful Letter Exchange. Address Mrs. Wm. Cook, 71 Appleton Street, Cambridge, Mass. Allen's "Latin Reader"; Allen's "Latin Grammar"; Allen's "Latin Lessons"; Allen's "Latin Primer"; "Selections from Ovid and Virgil"; Quintus Curtius Rufus, "Life and Exploits of Alexander the Great";

"Cæsar's Commentaries"; Hill's "Geometry for Beginners"; Parker's "Exercises in English Composition"; Howe's "Ladies' Reader"; Leighton's "Latin Lessons"; Ahn's "First and Second French Reader"; Knapp's "French Reading Book"; "Les Petits Oiseaux"; "La Joie fait Peur"; "La Poudre aux Yeux"; Haskin's "French and English First Book"; Ahn's "Easy Method of Learning the French Language"; Ahn's "French Primer"; Follen's "German Reader"; Roelker's "German Reader for Beginners"; Ahn's "First German Book"; Ahn's "First and Second German Reader"; "Beulah"; "Maud," Tennyson; "Papers for Thoughtful Girls"; "Omoo, a Narrative of Adventures in the South Seas"; "Hammersmith." "His Harvard Days"; "Jan Vedder's Wife"; "Three Feathers"; "Recollections of my Childhood," Grace Greenwood; "The House on the Beach"; "The Turks in Europe," E. A. Freeman; "The Story of the Guard," Fremont; "The Three Pines," Abbott; Lamartine's "Life of Mary Stuart"; "Cloth of Gold," Aldrich; "Songs in Many Keys," Holmes; "The Fountain, and Other Poems," W. C. Bryant; "Pickwick Club"; "Poems," Whittier; "True Love," Poem, Aldrich; "The Bells"; "Life at Puget Sound"; "The American Home Book of Indoor Games and Amusements"; "The Polish Chiefs," 2 vols.; "Fathers and Sons" (from the Russian); "The Soprano," a musical novel; "Dombey and Son"; "The Blue Ribbon"; "Moredun," Sir Walter Scott; "Ralph, the Heir"; "For the King"; "Charlotte's Inheritance"; "At the Sign of the Silver Flagon"; "Natural History Picture Book" (Mammalia), Wood; "Pictorial History of England"; "Seven Little People"; "The Southern Colonies"; "The Maiden and Married Life of Mary Powell"; "King Richard II."; "The Boy Inventor"; "Handie" (Stories of Rainbow and Lucky), Abbott; "The Chemical History of a Candle," Faraday; "The Citizen and the Neighbor," Dole; "Home Ballads," Whittier; "Good Morals and Gentle Manners"; "Wars of the Colonies," Jacob Abbott; "The Moorland Cottage"; Cogswell's "Lessons in Number"; Willson's "Fifth Reader"; Appleton's "Fourth Reader."

I will gladly send any of the following books to any one who may desire them.

Address Miss Helen I. Olsen, Corey Hill, Brookline, Mass.

French.—Two copies (each) of Chardinal's "First French Course" and "Second French Course"; "Easy French Reading," with copious notes and vocabulary; "Trésor de Contes Élémentaires," with vocabulary; Luginien's "French Prose of Popular Science," with notes; New Testament in French and English.

Entirely in French.—"Grammaire Française" (deuxième année), par P. Larousse; "Livre de Lecture Courante," par Lebrun, 3^{ème} partie; "L'Histoire de Sibylle," par Octave Feuillet; "Mademoiselle Solange," par François de Julliot; "Le Mariage de Gabrielle," par Daniel Lesueur.

German.—"Das Bild des Kaisers," Wilhelm Hauff, with very full notes and vocabulary; "Einer muss Heiraten" and "Eigensinn," two comedies with notes; "Wilhelm Tell," Schiller, with very full notes and vocabulary.

Latin.—Three copies (rather shabby) of Dr. Smith's "Principia Latina"; "First Latin Course," with vocabulary; "First Latin Stories for Beginners," with notes and vocabulary; "Extracts from Cicero," with notes.

English.—Two copies of "Our World" geographies, Mary L. Hall (second course); "Young Folks' History of the United States," T. W. Higginson; "Child's History of England," Dickens; also "Tom Brown's School-days," Thomas Hughes; "Scottish Chiefs," Jane Porter; "Chaplet of Pearls," Charlotte M. Yonge; "Old Mam'selle's Secret," E. Marlitt; "Paul and Virginia," St. Pierre; "First Violin," Jessie Fothergill; "Vicar of Wakefield," Goldsmith; "Shirley," Charlotte Brontë; "Scenes from Clerical Life" and "Romola," George Eliot.

The following books are offered by Miss A. von Arnim, Prescott Street, Brookline, Mass.: "Mémoir of Wm. Ellery Channing," O. B. Frothingham; "Adventures in the Land of the Behemoth," Jules Verne; "The Secret of Death, and Other Poems," Edwin Arnold; "Education," Herbert Spencer; "Tales in Verse," Mary Howitt; "Lawrence's Adventures," J. T. Trowbridge; "Marked Personal," A. Katharine Green; "Thoughts on the Poets," H. T. Tuckerman; "Outre-Mer," H. W. Longfellow; "Second Class Reader," G. S. Hillard.

"True Manliness," Thomas Hughes; "Every-day Subjects in Sunday Sermons," R. L. Collier; "Womankind," C. M. Yonge; "Fagots for the Fireside," Lucretia P. Hale; "Student's History of France"; "History of England," Markham; "English Grammar," Weld & Quackenbos; "Principles of Chemistry," Wells; "Modern History," Loïd; "History of the United States," Quackenbos; "Elementary Algebra," Sherwin; *Scientific American* and *Public Opinion*, old numbers. Offered by Mrs. H. R. Hallett, 310 Harvard Street, Brookline, Mass.

"Common Sense in the Household," Marion Harland, is offered by Miss S. P. Atkinson, 70 Chestnut Street, Boston, Mass.

The following books are offered by Miss R. O. Sheldon, 219 Hope Street, Providence, Rhode Island. Incomplete sets of *St. Nicholas* and *Babyhood* for 1891 and 1892, and of the *Atlantic* for 1893; paper-covered copies of "Twice Told Tales," "John Halifax," and "Our Mutual Friend"; Channing's "Memoirs"; and "Letters of Eliza Wilkinson," arranged by Caroline Gilman; also the *Christian Register*, weekly.

I would be pleased to send some papers and some simple instrumental and vocal music to any one wishing it, if they will pay postage; also two years of the *Christian Union* and the *Christian Leader*. Address Mrs. F. J. Sprague, Charlotte, Washington County, Maine.

Miss Katharine E. Phelps, 47 Mt. Vernon Street, Boston, Mass., offers the following books: "When a Man's Single," Barrie; "Peg Woffington," Reade; "An International Episode," James; "Fitz Booodle Papers," Thackeray; "The Lady or the Tiger," Stockton; "L'Avare," Molière; "Lady Baby," Gerard; "Adventures of Baron Münchhausen."

The *Sunday Post*, containing a complete story in each number, is offered by Mrs. J. S. Howe, Chestnut Street, Brookline, Mass. Books: "Child's Illustrated First Book in French," Keetel; "The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," Stevenson; "Miss Dividends," Gunter; "She: A History of Adventure," Rider Haggard; "Malcolm," "Donal Grant," George MacDonald.

"Lob-lie-by-the-fire," J. H. Ewing; "Stephen, M.D.," by the author of "Wide Wide World"; "Carl Forrest's Faith," Mary Lins-kell; "Man without a Country," Rev. E. E. Hale; "My Generation," S. A. Amory. Address Miss Mabel Lyman, 39 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Miss Addie L. Burgess, Newtonville, Mass., Box 174, offers four years of the *Century*, three years of the *Atlantic*, and back numbers of *Christian Union*, *Harper's Magazine*, and *Ladies' Home Journal*.

Some German novels are offered by Miss Eleanor E. Allen, 4 Park Street, Lowell, Mass.

The *Nation* is offered by Mrs. Copley Amory, Walpole, New Hampshire.

"The Old House at Sandwich," Joseph Hatton; "Under current," the Duchess; "Hygiene of the Brain," Holbrock; "A Tragic Mystery"; "Old World Questions and New World Answers." I also have a good many odd magazines and papers I will send to any one desiring them. Address Miss Addie Hyatt, Norwalk, Connecticut.

"Jesus of Nazareth," T. B. Forbush; "Volume of Sermons," A. P. Peabody; "Almost Persuaded," Will N. Harben,—are offered by Miss Mattie E. French, Kenosha, Wisconsin.

The following music is offered by the Lend a Hand Club of Worcester: "Sonatine," Beethoven; "Consolation," Mendelssohn; "Dorothy," Smith; "Negro Oddities"; "Polka," Gudera; "Jeunesse Dorée," "Fairy Queen," Smith. The last four very brilliant pieces. Address Miss Evelyn M. Wyman, 77 Lincoln Street, Worcester, Mass.

Mrs. Lydia A. Hawks, Pomfret Landing, Connecticut, offers back numbers of *Harper's Weekly* and the *Congregationalist* to any one who will pay the postage.

I have the following books in German: "Zwei Gefangene" (Paul Heyse), "Phantasiën im Bremer Rathskeller," "Das Bild des Kaisers," and "Die Bettlerin vom Pont des Arts," Wilhelm Hauff; also "Der Parasit," Fr. von Schiller. Mrs. G. A. Tillinghast, 50 Garden Street, Cambridge, Mass.

"Child of the Tide" and "Faithful to the Light," Mrs. Edna D. Cheney. Address

(Miss) M. F. Gill, Pond Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

I have a *Christian Register* which I should be glad to send weekly to any person who may desire it. Address Mrs. Thomas Talbot, 190 Andover Street, Lowell, Mass.

I have a large book of music called "A Progressive and Complete Method for the Pianoforte," by Henri Bertini. It is very old. I must have had it thirty years. Would it be of any use to any of *The Cheerful Letter* correspondents? Mrs. C. S. Gill, Pond Street, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

I would like to offer the following paper-covered books: "Lorna Doone," Blackmore; "Our Bessie," Rosa N. Carey; "Pretty Polly Pemberton," Frances H. Burnett; "Allan's Wife," Haggard; "Auld Licht Idylls," Barrie; "The Merry Men," R. L. Stevenson; "A Modern Telemachus," Charlotte M. Yonge; "A Rose of a Hundred Leaves," Amelia Barr; "Lady Patty," the Duchess. Address Mrs. J. S. Howe, Chestnut Street, Brookline.

Appleton's "Fourth Reader," "Primary Arithmetic," "English Grammar," and a few novels are offered by Mrs. Lottie Curtin, Olympia, Washington.

I have nearly all the copies of the *Nation* from Feb. 16, 1893, which I would send to any one who would care for them, and also the *Nation* as it comes out; also *Harper's Monthly* for 1882 and the *Home Magazine* for 1891 and 1892. Address Miss Annie B. Shattuck, 30 Lawrence Street, Lawrence, Mass.

The Lend a Hand Club of the Second Parish, Worcester, Mass., offer the following books: "The Scarlet Letter," Hawthorne; "Oliver Twist," Charles Dickens; "Three Men in a Boat," "Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow," "On the Stage and Off," Jerome K. Jerome; "In Silk Attire," William Black; "The Demoniac," Walter Besant; "Twenty Thousand Leagues under the Sea," Jules Verne; "Soldiers Three," Rudyard Kipling; "Two Generations," Tolstoi; "Marriage at Sea," W. Clark Russell; "A Romance of Two Brothers," Edgar Fawcett; "An American Girl in London," S. J. Duncan; "The White Company," A. Conan Doyle. Please address Miss Evelyn M. Wyman, 77 Lincoln Street, Worcester, Mass.

REQUESTS.

A *Cheerful Letter* was handed to me with which I was very much pleased, and glad to find a way to obtain some reading which I have been longing for.

I have picked up many helps in painting myself, and would be very glad if some one could send me Ingalls's *Home Magazine* or Winson and Newton's, and anything that would help me, as I cannot take lessons and I enjoy painting very much.

If there is a shut-in who would enjoy some small sprays painted for fancy-work, if she will write and send me the pieces, I will try and accommodate her, as I live in the country and can seldom go to see my friends.

I have not been able to go to Sunday-school to get library books for some time, and I am hungry for some good reading.

I would be thankful for some home magazine or any good book that would help me or give me new ideas in bringing up my little boy.

I hope some time I can take *The Cheerful Letter*. Yours sincerely, Mrs. Joe N. Smith, University, Los Angeles County, California.

Miss Violet I. Cairns, Midland, Marquette County, Wisconsin, invalid, desires Whittier's, Tennyson's, and Longfellow's poems, especially "Courtship of Miles Standish" and "Evangeline"; also the *Century* and other magazines of that class. Is twenty-one years of age, and the eldest in a family of eight children. Will share all reading with others who, like herself, are far from a library.

Miss N. V. Denton of Elwood, Suffolk County, Long Island, New York, asks for good readable books.

I have been a reader of *The Cheerful Letter* for several months, and think it such a nice paper; and, seeing so many offering good reading, I would like so well to have anything good and instructive that could be spared in the way of books, papers, or magazines. I am a shut-in, and very lonely. Would be glad for reading for my daughter, aged eighteen years, and also a lady with three children, one aged sixteen, one nine, one six years. She lives in a lonely mountain place, forty miles from town and but few neighbors, is a weakly person, and not

able to get reading for her children. Her address, Mrs. Clara Patterson, Blaine, Tillamook County, Oregon. My address, Mrs. Mary M. East, Salem, Oregon.

J. Alfred Faulkner, Great Bend, Pennsylvania, pastor of Methodist Episcopal church, small salary, far from library, would be glad of books for his little circulating library.

Mrs. Mollie Meade, Palmer, Christian County, Illinois, would like *Our Little Men and Women* for 1890.

Is there any one taking the *Youth's Companion* or the magazine called *Childhood* who will send them to me after reading them? I have *Childhood* previous to December, 1893. I should like a book by Henry P. Wells or by Mrs. Ewing, or "Jupiter Lights" by Constance F. Woolson, if any one has it to spare. I have many good papers and magazines that I will gladly send to any one who can furnish postage. My grateful thanks to all who have sent me reading matter. Sincerely, "I. H. N." address Mrs. James A. Tyner, 916 North 9th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska.

The Cheerful Letter was sent to me a few days ago by an unknown friend. It is the first copy I have ever seen, and I do like it so much. I am fifty-six years old, have been an invalid over half of my lifetime, but am not always confined to my room. My husband is also an invalid, being nearly helpless with rheumatism. I have no daughter, but have two boys. They seem to have inherited my weak constitution. We live in a very destitute part of the State, about fifty miles from a town or railroad. I hardly ever see any one except my husband and boys. We once had plenty, and now we have but a scanty living. But I count all this as nothing compared to deep sorrows that come so often. . . . I would like to have "Ben-Hur" and "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Your afflicted friend, F. E. Owen, Foneswood, Virginia. (Reference sent. The whole of Mrs. Owen's letter would have been printed if it had not been written on both sides of the paper.)

A lady who has been sending the *Outlook* to Mrs. E. M. Seiley, Beaver P.O., St. Landry Parish, Louisiana, and is obliged

to discontinue her subscription, asks for some one to take her place.

Mrs. Robert Campbell, Atlantic, Iowa, would like an English Dictionary, *Ladies' Home Journal*, old or for 1894, and "Stepping Heavenward."

Mrs. D. O. Gilbert, Atlantic, Iowa, would like "Stepping Heavenward" or any of Miss Alcott's books. (Reference sent.)

Mrs. Addie Merrill, St. Francis, Kansas, would like the *Household* for this year.

The families whose addresses I venture to send live in the mountains. There are no churches, or schools. The family living in Oregon have no wagon-road to their home, only a bridle-path. The nearest town is so far distant that it takes two days to go there. When the father returns and brings any mail, it is a holiday to them. There are seven children, the oldest a boy, sixteen, two girls, fourteen and twelve, three boys, nine, seven, four, a baby girl, two years old. The husband and father has lost a hand, it having been crushed when felling trees. It is the right hand I think. Their address is Mrs. Harriet Clarno, Hermann, Lane County, Oregon. All books and papers would be thankfully received.

The other family live in the mountains of Tennessee. There are six children, the two oldest boys, twelve and ten years old, four girls younger. The mother has poor health. The father is crippled with rheumatism, so that he cannot work. The address is Mrs. M. E. Arney, Baker's Gap, Johnson County, Tennessee. Mrs. John Anthony, Eureka, Illinois, Box 125. (The postmaster also vouches for the worthiness of these families.)

Mrs. R. H. Berger, Longford Post-office, Kansas, would like *Ladies' Home Journal* or *Young Ladies' Journal* with supplement.

Mrs. Ada Carey, Olympia, Washington, asks for any historical works.

I read in the December number of *The Cheerful Letter* that several copies of the *Ladies' Home Journal* have been offered. If they are not all disposed of, I should enjoy it so much. I have lately come to this Western mining town from Michigan, to stay with an invalid sister. There is such a dearth of reading matter in the place and

a great dearth of money to procure any, or anything else for that matter, except the bare necessities of life. Any good books or magazines would be so very acceptable. There is so much suffering among the poor which it is impossible to relieve. No work for the miners nor "none in sight," to use their own expression. Everything in the book line sent me will be "passed on." Hoping you may find it possible to grant my request, I am yours truly, (Mrs.) Helen M. Hutchinson, Custer, South Dakota.

Mrs. Hutchinson also asks for Miss Amelia B. Edwards's "Summary of English History."

Mrs. Dora Rhoades, Fleming, Colorado, asks for Barnes's "Primary History and Elementary Grammar" and Barnes's "First Reader." She needs them for her children.

Miss Holt handed me some copies of your *Cheerful Letter*, which I liked very much, and especially the idea of helping people with something to read. About ten years ago I got a lot of some books on astronomy, which I studied a little one winter. Since then I have been wanting to get hold of it some more, but have neglected it; and now I am without means. I think that I would be glad of anything on astronomy, especially an atlas or chart; but perhaps they are not so easily to be got. If any one has any cast-off books of instruction in Latin, I would be very thankful; for one of my children as well as myself seem to like it. My children would be very thankful for any *Youth's Companion* or *Harper's Young People*; but I shall ask too much. I don't know even if it is permissible by your rules for me to ask for anything. I came here from Massachusetts on account of my health seven years ago. I know the country all around Boston, and liked it, too. I have walked it around and around, just to see it. I am badly broken down in health and means, but I do like to busy my brain a part of the time. Would you like from me a description of the eucalyptus, or especially the blue-gum, wood and foliage,—a very strange tree, I call it? Yours respectfully, E. S. Moody, University, Los Angeles County, California.

I can never express what I feel. Some moments since Mrs. Charles Reitmier's

children, four in number, came to me, asking why *The Cheerful Letter* sisters did not remember them! Joe, the eldest, a boy, is a very bright child, twelve years old, Frances is ten, Blanch eight, Charlie five,—two boys and two girls. Mrs. Hundley and Mrs. Lange and Mrs. Latson, etc., all live in the same neighborhood. On seeing the other children have so many tokens of kindness, it hurt Mrs. Reitmier's feelings. She, being a German and cannot read or write English, seems to think this the cause of her children being left out. I divided what came to me with them. Oh, you don't know how neglected they feel! A book for each child and some cards would heal up their wounds. Joe gets *Every Other Sunday* and *Our Dumb Animals*. Some one has subscribed for these two above mentioned. If any one could send Mrs. Reitmier some German papers, she would feel thankful. Sincerely yours, M. E. Oades, Olympia, Washington.

I have a friend, a young mother, with two boys, sixteen and fourteen, and two little girls. Hard times have thrown her out of work; and she is unable to buy the necessities of life, let alone reading. And reading has become a necessity with most minds. Please send to Mrs. Lottie Carpenter, Blairs-town, Missouri, reading matter. She has four children, three of them large enough to enjoy reading; and the younger would like pictures and picture-books. Please send the mother some good paper that has an exchange column in it. For myself I would like the privilege of asking for the *Young Ladies' Journal* and two books; namely, "All Glorious Within," and "Some Friends of Mine." If the friends who respond to my request wish it, I will send them something in exchange. Sincerely yours, I. H. N., Florence Criste.

I would like any good reading, magazines or some religious books. The First Day Advent Church is my choice. I am not much of a hand to read novels, but the boys like books about the late war or India War. Sincerely yours, Mrs. Adelia Towle, Olympia, Washington.

I wish to express appreciative thanks to some kind friend who sends me *The Cheerful Letter*, which I find a most welcome and cheerful visitor. I live in a very secluded

mountain community, and am debarred many social and intellectual advantages and church privileges. I would be glad to get any reading matter, current magazines or home magazines, etc., etc. Will some one please send me "Last of the Mohicans," Cooper, also "Twice Told Tales," Hawthorne? Much success and wide circulation for the Cheerful Letter Club. Yours cordially, Mrs. Elva Robinson, Max Meadows, Wythe County, Virginia.

The members of the Cheerful Letter Exchange who have received no acknowledgment from Mrs. George Garretson, Perry, Perry County, Oklahoma, will be interested in the following extract from a letter recently received from her by the secretary: "I have been so poorly, I could not write: it is my right arm that is partly paralyzed. I received all the papers, books, and tokens, and was very thankful. I can read when I cannot do anything else. There are so many families here that do not take a paper I lend my reading that I get: they return it. We are ten miles from the post-office. I am trying to trust in the Lord.

Mrs. D. Warner, Grove, Geauga County, Ohio, and Mrs. A. Wirths, Burrsville, New Jersey, send thanks for books received from unknown donors.

Mrs. D. Jayne, Cayuta, Schuyler County, New York, asks for books for her little Sunday-school. The children have no books, but lately some copies of *Every Other Sunday* have been sent them. Mrs. Jayne has been in correspondence with some of our members for several years, and has sent the name of a well-known minister as reference.

(The editor suggests that, in sending to Sunday-schools and libraries, it is not necessary to write *first* to the Book Club, asking "Shall I send 'Rollo at Play,' or whatever the book is?" as an occasional duplicate does no harm in a library. But it would be best to let Mrs. Hallett know how many and what books are sent, that she may not remain in doubt whether Mrs. Jayne's request is answered.)

The editor of *The Cheerful Letter* requests, on behalf of a circle of young people in Boston, the names of children or young people, between ten and twenty years old, who would like to receive magazines and papers,

such as the *St. Nicholas*, *Harper's Young People*, *Every Other Sunday*, *Dumb Animals*, etc., or who would like correspondents. Address Miss L. Freeman Clarke, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Mrs. Lottie Curtin, Olympia, Washington, would be glad to receive some good novels, etc. She is a subscriber to *The Cheerful Letter*. Has received only one book, "Gentle Measures."

Miss Langmaid, 2 Gordon Terrace, Brookline, Mass., asks for a copy of *The Cheerful Letter* for September, 1893, now out of print.

Mrs. John Morgan, Dunlor, Washington, asks for books by "Josiah Allen's Wife." ("My Opinions and Betsy Bobbet's" has been sent. She has had "Among the Brethren.") She asked for "Ben-Hur," but has not received it.

Miss Mary P. House, Pisgah, Jackson County, Alabama, would like some reading. Is a subscriber to *The Cheerful Letter*. "There is no place that needs books more."

Miss Lulu M. Thompson asks for the *Ladies' Home Journal*. Her address is Tatum (not Taluin), Virginia.

I wish through *The Cheerful Letter* to return my heartfelt thanks for kind remembrance of books, cards, letters, etc. I received a few of each, which gave me great pleasure. I once had the pleasure of giving; but, alas! that has passed. Will you forgive me for not answering your letters? It is impossible for me to answer letters, if a stamp is not enclosed. I enjoy letters so much, for I have been able to do but little all summer. Can do some little now, such as crocheting and making quilts; but, with all the misfortunes and trials of this life, I am one among the happy women, for I know the Lord will provide. He has promised to be with us in the sixth trouble, and not leave us in the seventh. Will you, dear friends, send books, cards, *please no novels*, to a sick young man, Mr. Colfax High, Purgitsville, West Virginia? Mrs. B. A. Berry, Purgitsville, West Virginia.

As one whom his mother comforteth, so will I comfort you; and ye shall be comforted in Jerusalem.—*Isa. lxvi. 13.*

IMPORTANT NOTICES.

Observe the change in the name and address of the secretary of the Book Club.

Observe the new rule in regard to sending a reference, when asking for books.

Our Book Club department has grown so large that we shall ask of all who, in the future, write to us for books, to send the name of some minister, as a reference; when possible, the minister of the church to which they belong.

Our object being more especially to give good books, we shall be obliged to omit requests for other articles. Such requests are often printed in the *Housewife* and in the papers of shut-in societies.

There will be a meeting of the Cheerful Letter Exchange workers at 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Friday, April 6, at 10.30 A.M. All interested are cordially invited.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SECRETARY OF CHEERFUL LETTER EXCHANGE, —Miss Bertha Langmaid, 2 Gordon Terrace, Brookline, Mass.

TREASURER OF CHEERFUL LETTER EXCHANGE, —Miss Louise Howe, 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass., or Linden Place, Brookline, Mass.

EDITOR OF "CHEERFUL LETTER,"—Miss L. Freeman Clarke, Jamaica Plain, Mass.

SECRETARY OF BOOK CLUB OF CHEERFUL LETTER EXCHANGE,—Mrs. Henry R. Hallett, 310 Harvard Street, Brookline, Mass.

Subscriptions and renewals may be sent to the treasurer as above. The subscription is fifty cents a year.

Notice that requests for membership and for correspondents go to Miss Langmaid, our secretary; requests for books and offers of books, to Mrs. Hallett; and to Miss Clarke only articles for insertion in the paper (not Book Club matter). All such material should be written on *one side only* of the paper, and sent by the first of the month *before* that in which it is printed.

Those not able to subscribe for the paper, but desiring to receive it, may do so by writing to Miss Ellen R. Dewson, Quincy, Mass. Please give full name and address. Many of our members take the paper, in order to send it to those who are not able to subscribe for it.

Will all subscribers or receivers of *The Cheerful Letter*, whose copy does not come regularly, or comes not correctly addressed, be kind enough to notify Miss Bertha Langmaid, 2 Gordon Terrace, Brookline, Mass.?

Send also all notices of *changes of address* to Miss Langmaid. Please do not send these notices to the editor, as it causes delay in the correction.